

New Ideas TO AID ALL WHO WORK ON CARS

IN COLD weather, the wooden rim of a steering wheel may get so cold it will chill the hands when first grasped. Modern steering wheels, however, are rimmed with a molded composition that is a far better conductor of heat than is wood. Chilly fingers caused by modern steering wheels can be prevented by wrapping the wheel rim with a layer of wool as shown in Fig. 1. Wool Army puttees are suitable for the purpose. The winding must be tight and the ends of the puttees should be cemented firmly to the wheel.

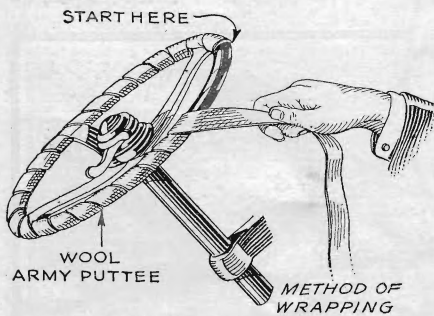


Fig. 1. Wrapping the steering wheel with wool protects the fingers from its chilling rim

Missing at High Speed

AS A CAR gets older, joints in the frame and motor mounting loosen and this often causes queer troubles with the ignition system. A motor may, for example, hit evenly on all cylinders at low speeds but develop a bad miss at high speed. Often this miss can be eliminated by connecting a wire from the metallic part of the ignition head to the nearest point on the frame, as

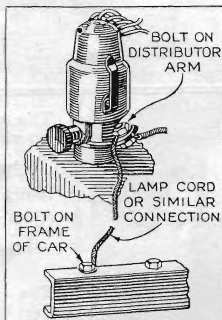


Fig. 2. Wire from ignition head to car frame stops motor's missing

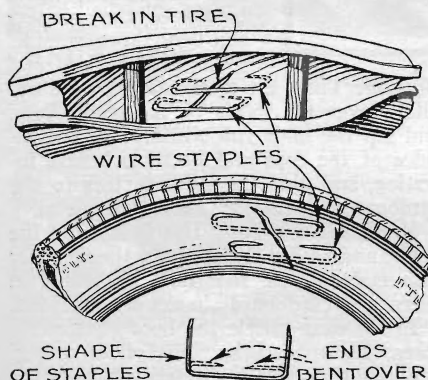


Fig. 3. Holes cut by bottles in good tires can be mended by stapling the cut edges together

shown in Fig. 2. Sometimes, however, it is more effective to run a flexible wire from a convenient bolt on the crank case to the frame of the motor.

A Cut Tire

OCASIONALLY a tire is badly cut by a broken bottle or piece of metal long before the casing is worn out. Figure 3 shows a way to hold the cut together and prevent undue wear on the blow-out shoe. Use wire staples as indicated to draw the edges of the cut together. The ends of the staples should be clamped tightly against the outside surface of the shoe. Even if they are in such position that they become worn away, the air pressure will still hold the staples in place. Sketch in lower left-hand corner of page shows the idea.

New Tire Tool

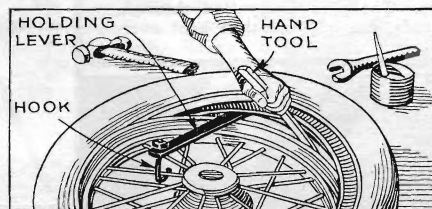


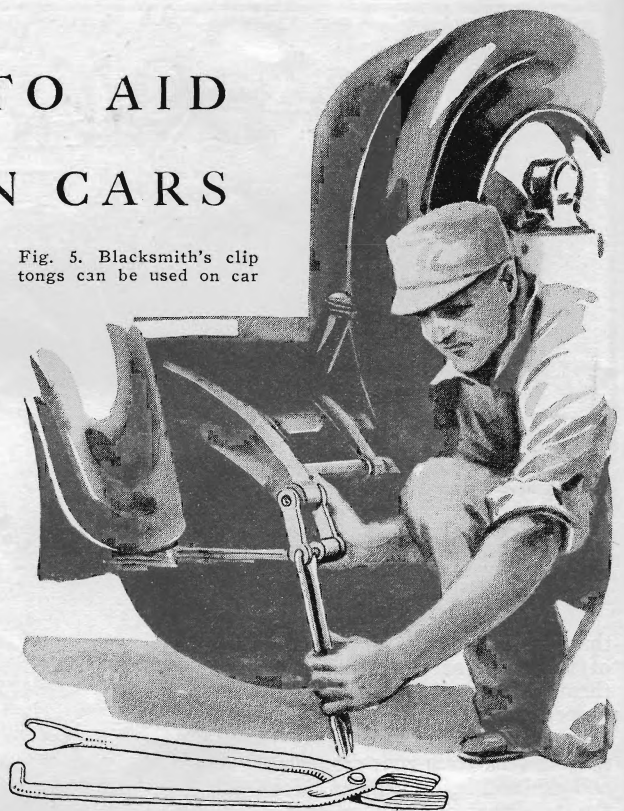
Fig. 4. A hook on a short iron catches spoke and helps in getting tire off sticking rim

IN THEORY, it is an easy job to remove a tire from a rim, but often the tire is stiff and hard to spring. Figure 4 shows a tool that will help. An extra short iron is fitted at the hand end with a hook-shaped bolt passed through a hole and held loosely in place with a nut, the end of the bolt being riveted over. The tire is first started with a regular iron and then held as shown with the special tool while an additional section is jacked off.

A Clip Tong

THE modern auto mechanic can take a tip from the old-time blacksmith. The blacksmith's clip tong, shown in use in Fig. 5, is one example. The handle ends of ordinary tongs are altered by cutting one a half inch shorter, flattening a trifle, and forming the end to a shallow crotch shape. The other

Fig. 5. Blacksmith's clip tongs can be used on car



WIN A \$10 PRIZE

Each month we award \$10 for the best idea sent in for motorists. This month's prize goes to Edward E. Leinen, Rochester, N. Y. (Fig. 6). Contributions are requested from auto mechanics and if published will be paid for.

handle end is given a short right-angle bend. The drawing shows how the clip tong is used to pull into line a shackle clip. A powerful pull can be exerted with little effort by means of this tool.

Your Back Curtain

INSTEAD of the sloppy appearance of a rolled back curtain, the arrangement shown in Fig. 6 provides a neat way to support the curtain flat against the underside of the top. It also provides a place to store robe, blanket, or heavy coat when the back curtain is down.

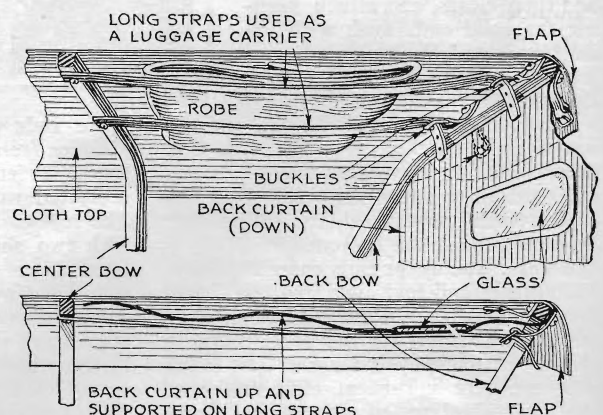


Fig. 6. Drawing shows how back curtain can be supported flat against car's top and rack also used to carry a robe